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1. In the middle of August a meeting took place at the Maxhütte foundry in Unterwallenborn to discuss the expansion of pig iron production in the Soviet Zone. Among the participants in the discussion were the following:

Deputy Director of the DWK's Main
Administration for Metallurgy

Head of the SMA's Metallurgy Division
Leading engineer of the SMA's Metallurgy
Division

Head of Main Administration for Research
Freiberg Mining School
Technical director of Maxhütte
Engineer at Maxhütte
Engineer at the Vesta VVB
~~Independent engineer~~
Research laboratory at SAG Krupp-Gruson
Engineer at SAG Krupp-Gruson

2. Because large amounts of scrap have continued to be taken from the Soviet Zone, the future scrap supply at the Siemens Martin steel plants in Hennigsdorf, Riesa, and Gröditz is endangered.* Therefore, increased extraction of iron from ore is necessary for the fulfilment of the scrap needs. To accomplish this the following five proposals were discussed at the meeting:

- a. Pig iron production in blast furnaces: erection of a fifth blast furnace at Maxhütte or the construction of a new blast furnace plant.
- b. Pig iron production in pit furnaces (Niederschachtofen): forging of ore briquettes (fertige gällerten Erzbriketts) containing flux and reduction carbon. This process would, in particular, make possible the use of the excess refined ores, including burnt ores, which are on hand.
- c. Production of iron loops according to the Krupp-Renn process.
- d. Pig iron production according to the Bassett and the Stirling processes.

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- 2 -

a. Pig iron production in a flat furnace (Flachherdofen): one reduction in a 200-ton Siemens Martin furnace.

3. At the meeting several commissions were set up to report by the beginning of September on the technical feasibility of these suggestions.

Kirchmüser and Hennigsdorf

4. At the Kirchmüser rolling plant the refined iron mill was expected to go into production in September 1949, but the target date for the completion of the plate mill had still not been set. The work has been seriously retarded by the lack of material and by the difficulties encountered in procuring important equipment such as ingot pushers for the plate mill. The heating furnaces as well as the generator installations for supplying the furnace with gas have already been completed. In addition a long distance gas supply from Magdeberg is provided.
5. The setting up of the 300 (sic) double duo mill delivered from the USSR for rolling bar steel has progressed so far that the mill was expected to go into production in the last days of August. The target date for the wire mill to go into production was still not determined in the production plan of 1 August 1949. Difficulties arose in the preparation of the necessary roller depot after the arrival of the roll-turning lathes.

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- * Comment: At Gröditz the planned Siemens Martin furnaces are still under construction, but the first two furnaces with a capacity of 15 tons apiece should be finished by the end of 1949.

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